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Mrs Effie Manley
Newark Eagles Baseball Club
71 Crawford Street
Newark N.J.

Dear Mrs Manley;

I had the conference with Senator Smith and his secretary, Ab Herman, last week Friday, October 5th in Washington, concerning the hi-jacking of Negro Major League ball players by the agents of the Mexican Leagues.

In discussing this problem with Mr. Herman prior to the arrival of Senator Smith, I learned that Herman had played five years of Major League ball with the Boston Braves. He therefore had some understanding of the problem although he stated that he had no recollection of anything similar to this occurring in the big leagues.

When Senator Smith arrived I explained the predicament of the Negro League owners and their desire for some protection of their investment. He was obviously surprised and amazed at the size of this business conducted by Negroes. He was sympathetic and interested. However, clever politicians as he and Herman are, he immediately saw the weak point in urging the State Department to intervene by refusing visitors permits to Negro ball players. He pointed out that such action would be discriminatory.

Another point I was questioned on was the action taken by the ball clubs and the league against the offending players. I did not admit the true state of affairs there because I knew that, if known by them, they would advise a house cleaning within the league itself.

It was agreed at the end of the discussion that this was a problem in which Senator Chandler might be of some service. Therefore Senator Smith will take up this matter with him when he returns from the World Series and arrange a conference for me with him within the next few weeks.

Very truly yours

James A. Curtis